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The *pièce de resistance* in the belated July number of *The International Journal of Psychoanalysis* is an autobiography, with comments by Dr. C. M. Haviland, written by a young man of twenty-three in one of the United States training camps on the eve of his departure for the battle front of France, compiled as a gift to a friend in case the writer failed to return. It breaks off abruptly, apparently in his eighth year, and his intention to bring it up to date in France was always frustrated. He wrote it, or rather he says it wrote itself, under the greatest emotional stress.

One of his earliest and most persistent concepts, when he was about three, was that he was of immense size and lived and moved inside a correspondingly large crystal sphere. He himself was an occultist, and believed this to be a reminiscence of a previous state of existence. Haviland, however, interprets it as a memory of prenatal life in the sphere of the uterus. It is an image "coming from the unconscious and thrown upon the screen of consciousness." To this sphere he was prone to retreat, for here he was absolutely monarch, and apparently he had not outgrown, even at the time of writing, a very vivid memory of it. At the age of four he had a distinct sense of the presence of another child, whom he often imaged as a white-robed guide, who at first directed him entirely in one of his most elaborate structures, *viz.*, the building of a sewer in his imaginary kingdom, later was consulted about everything, and finally slowly faded with years. This presence Haviland interprets as at first a mother-image, which had to be made masculine, and finally became identified with self. The child also developed an apparently purely original language in which he communed with the mysterious presence and also with the many two-inch people with whom he populated a wonderful fairy kingdom. His addiction to this language caused, for a time, the suspicion on the part of his parents that he was abnormal. The fairy kingdom was developed in great detail and had its own king, who was killed by the Crown Prince, himself later conquered and imprisoned in a high tower by an army led by an obscure boy within the province. The queen, whose features and traits were very vividly imaged, enlisted his deep sympathy. The countess, who was represented by a repulsive toad and was the chief mourner, dived from the royal barge and escaped death by swimming under water. This Haviland, we think rather lamely, interprets as a manifestation of the Oedipus complex. He makes no attempt to explain the very elaborate grave-yard in which all dead or dying animals were interred and where even insects were buried *en masse*; nor the persistent propensity to model catlike forms, a girl's pet and expressing his feministic tendencies; nor does he explain the persistent horror of all large animals and even of the barn in which they were kept. We should have welcomed some further statement as to the present state of this most interesting patient, whose childish imagination was so extraordinarily creative, illustrating spontaneous autistic powers quite as remarkable as those of Una Mary, Bashkirtseff, Mary MacLane, George Sand, etc. Analysts tend to explain such phenomena as due to an impulse of retreat toward infantile and even prenatal conditions.

*Outwitting Our Nerves: A Primer of Psychotherapy.* By JOSEPHINE A. JACKSON and HELEN M. SALISBURY. N. Y., The Century Co., 1921. Pp. 403.

To one who is often asked to suggest a lucid and sprightly introduction to psychoanalysis this book is a godsend, for it best serves its purpose, as indeed, since it is the last of a long series, it ought to. The authors have had a long experience in dealing with diseases where there is "nothing to be cut out and nothing to give medicine for." And yet these troubles seem to be more common in the world today than those which are helped by surgery or drugs. In the sixteen chapters here we have not only a clear statement of principles but also many well-chosen illustrative cases and a brief epitome of the theories, methods, and results of psychoanalysis, with hints at its larger culture-significance and the latest contributions to the subject. The literary quality of this book should make it very popular.